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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,279	11/15/2004	Hiroyasu Kawada	LA-7630-101US	5703
167	7590	10/05/2005	EXAMINER	
FULBRIGHT AND JAWORSKI LLP 555 S. FLOWER STREET, 41ST FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90071			PIGGUSH, AARON C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2838	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/517,279	KAWADA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Aaron Piggush	2838	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2004.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-10 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 November 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The references cited in the Search Report filed on November 15, 2004 have been considered, but will not be listed on any patent resulting from this application because they were not provided on a separate list in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1). In order to have the references printed on such resulting patent, a separate listing, preferably on a PTO/SB/08A and 08B form, must be filed within the set period for reply to this Office action.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Storage Battery with Auxiliary Terminals

Claim Objections

3. Claims 5-10 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 5-10 have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carter (US 5,877,609).

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With respect to claims 1 and 2, Carter discloses a storage battery comprising:

main positive and negative terminals that are connected to a plate pack (no. 114 and 112 in Fig. 2 and col 2 ln 35-39);

at least one pair of auxiliary terminals that are respectively connected via connection members to the main positive and negative terminals (no. 140, 150, 174 and identical terminal located adjacent [not labeled in Fig.] in Fig. 2).

Furthermore, the device of Carter discloses claim 1 as mentioned above because it has an interchangeable amount of auxiliary terminals, which includes one auxiliary terminal or one pair of auxiliary terminals (no. 162-168 in Fig. 2).

With respect to claim 3, Carter discloses the storage battery according to any one of claims 1 and 2, further comprising:

a container for accommodation of the plate pack (no. 110 in Fig. 2); and

a lid for covering an opening of the container (top of no. 110 in Fig. 2); wherein

at least a portion of the connection member is embedded in the inside of the lid or located in a recess on the top of the lid (no. 240 and 250 in Fig. 3 and col 5 ln 57-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carter (US 5,877,609) in view of Lopez-Doriga (4,634,642).

With respect to claim 4, Carter discloses the storage battery according to claim 3, wherein said at least a portion of the connection member is located in the recess on the top of the lid (no. 240 and 250 in Fig. 3 and col 5 ln 57-67), however, does not expressly disclose wherein the portion of the connection member is embedded in resin filled and cured in the recess.

Lopez-Doriga discloses wherein at least a portion of a connection member is located in the inside of the lid and embedded in resin filled and cured in the recess (no. 7 in Fig. 3 connected through no. 2 in Fig. 2 and col 1 ln 8-10), in order to prevent any leaking or damage from electrolytes and to insulate the conducting member to safeguard against shocking and shorts.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to encase the connection member of Carter in resin, as did the device of Lopez-Doriga, so that any leaking, damage from leaking electrolytes, and accidental shocking or shorts could be prevented.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hwa (US 6,121,750) discloses a dual battery with plates and connections embedded within the top casing. Wruck (US 2003/0039882) discloses two positive and two negative terminals, among other things.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron Piggush whose telephone number is 571-272-5978. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on 571-272-2084. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AP

Handwritten signature of Michael Sherry, dated 10/7/05.

MICHAEL SHERRY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800